

INTERPRETIVE COMMENTS ON THE RELATIVE VALUE OF THE
INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION RECEIVED BY OSI FROM VARIOUS SOURCES

These figures indicate the relative value of the various sources under present circumstances. They are influenced to a large extent by the following factors some of which are external to the sources.

a. Various sources have particular interests which they concentrate on. The question whether they could or should increase their work in other fields is problematical. (e.g.) The Air Force is very interested in the physics of the upper atmosphere so we get some of our most valuable information in this field from them. Whether they can or should devote more energy to communications or physics is a moot point.

b. The amount of energy required for OSI to get equal value from different sources varies greatly. (e.g.) Open literature would be of much greater value if OSI had sufficient manpower to fully exploit it and if the material was better indexed and abstracted.

c. The needs of OSI are such that in general technically competent personnel must collect and/or report the information. (e.g.) Much of the information received from certain sources indicates that the source has access to valuable information but due to technical deficiencies, key data is not recognized as such and consequently not properly reported. This necessitates backchecking for additional information or verification which adversely affects the timeliness of the information as well as increasing the workload.

d. There are several other factors, some of which are rather intangible, which will influence the relative value of the information received from the various sources but a more exhaustive study than time allows would be required to properly present them.

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Approved For Release 2005/03/15 : CIA-RDP65-00005R000100090009-6

Approved For Release 2005/03/15 : CIA-RDP65-00005R000100090009-6